

Appl. No. 09/535,348
Amdt. dated February 27, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

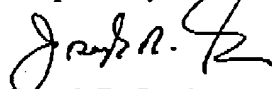
At the outset, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Stockton for taking the time and courtesy to conduct the telephonic interviews on February 19, 2004 and February 25, 2004.

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 13, 57-58, 67-72 and 77 are pending in the application and presented for examination. Claims 13 and 58 have been amended. Claim 78 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claim 13 has been amended to more clearly set forth the claimed invention. As recommended by the Examiner, claim 58 has been amended to incorporate a proviso which excludes the option of the carbocyclic ring being a cyclohexyl ring. Further, Z in claim 58 has been defined as methylene. As such, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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